

POLYNUCLEOTIDES ENCODING THROMBOPOIETIN, TRANSFORMED CELLS,
AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THROMBOPOIETIN

Abstract of the Disclosure

Isolated polynucleotides encoding mammalian thrombopoietin are disclosed. Also disclosed are expression vectors comprising a transcription promoter, a DNA segment encoding mammalian thrombopoietin, and a transcription terminator; cultured cells into which have been introduced the disclosed expression vectors; and methods of producing thrombopoietin. The isolated polynucleotides encode a polypeptide comprising a region that is at least 80% identical to the region between amino acid number 45 and amino acid number 206 of SEQ ID NO:2 that stimulates MPL-dependent cell proliferation. The thrombopoietin encoded by the polynucleotides is useful for stimulating platelet production in a mammal, such as in the treatment of thrombocytopenia.